GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:901
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2017
Fall in Prices of Pulses
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fall in prices of pulses including arhar has breached the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for pulses announced by the Government and if so, the details thereof and the corrective step taken by the Government to protect the pulse growers from the fall of price;

(b) whether the growers of arhar crops have urged the Government to start market intervention to stabilise prices of pulses in the country and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;

(c) whether there are reports of failure of Technology Mission on Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize since its introduction in various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;

(d) the details of the areas/regions where production of pulses has not been increased during the last three years and the current year along with the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken thereon, State-wise; and

(e) whether the Government has prepared any action plan for initiating better policy and technology intervention for increasing the production of oilseeds and pulses in various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) & (b): Some Reports indicate that prices of pulses in some of the mandis are ruling below Minimum Support Price (MSP). However, in most of the mandis prices are above the MSP.
Contdâ€¦2/-

Government implements Price Support Scheme (PSS) and Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) for procurement of pulses directly from the farmers through central agencies viz. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), Small Farmers' Agri-business Consortium (SFAC), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF) and Food Corporation of India (FCI). The procurement of pulses is undertaken by these central agencies at MSP as and when prices fall below MSP.

In the current year (2016-17) the Government has procured 131.74 thousand tonnes of Tur, 204.43 thousand tonnes of Moong and 83.24 thousand tonnes of Urad, till 30-01-2017.

(c) to (e): The Technology Mission on Oilseeds was launched by the Central Government in 1986 to increase the production of oilseeds to reduce import and achieve self-sufficiency in edible oils. Subsequently, pulses, oil palm and maize were also brought within the purview of the Mission. The scheme was restructured in 2004 as Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM).

State-wise production of pulses for last three years and the current year i.e. from 2013-14 to 2016-17 is given at Annexure.

In order to increase production and productivity of pulses and oilseeds, Government has taken several initiatives which, inter alia, includes National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Soil Health Card etc.

In addition, a new scheme 'Targeting rice fallow area in Eastern India for pulses and oilseeds' a sub-scheme under RKVY has also been initiated during 2016-17 to increase production and productivity of pulses and oilseeds.